No.	Forest Division.	Name of Officer.	Rank.	Designation.	From	To	Remarks.
5	Poona	Mr. R. C. Wroughton.	Deputy Conservator, 1st Grade.	Divisional Forest Officer.	1st April 1892...	20th April 1892.	
		„ F. Gleadow ...	Do. 3rd Grade.	Do. ...	21st do. ...	9th Sept. 1892.	
		„ A. D. Wilkins ...	Do. do. ...	Do. ...	10th Sept. 1892 .	30th June 1893.	
		„ W. R. Gaundé ...	Extra Assistant Conservator, 1st Grade.	Sub-division Forest Officer.	1st April 1892...	4th May 1892.	
		„ F. Gleadow ...	Deputy Conservator, 3rd Grade.	Do. ...	5th May 1892 ...	3rd June 1892.	
		„ J. H. Clabby ...	Extra Assistant Conservator, 2rd Grade.	Do. ...	4th June 1892...	27th June 1893.	
		„ A. D. Wilkins ...	Deputy Couservator, 3rd Grade.	Do. ...	28th June 1893...	30th do.	
6	Sátára	Mr. R. S. F. Fagan ...	Do. do. ...	Divisional Forest Officer.	1st April 1892...	30th do.	
		„ L. D. Joshi ...	Extra Assistant Conservator, 1st Grade.	Sub-division Forest Officer.	Do. ...	3rd Dec. 1892.	
		„ B. M. Khárkar ...	Huzúr Deputy Collector, Sátára.	Do. ...	4th Dec. 1892 ...	19th do.	
		„ G. S. Hinge ...	Extra Assistant Conservator, 3rd Grade.	Do. ...	20th do. ...	30th June 1893.	
7	Sholápur ...	Mr. S. Hornidge ...	Acting Deputy Conservator, 3rd Grade.	Divisional Forest Officer.	1st April 1892 ..	27th do.	
		„ J. H. Clabby ...	Extra Assistant Consrrvator, 3rd Grade.	Do. ...	28th June 1893 ...	30th do.	

CHAPTER I.

EXTENSION AND CONSTITUTION OF STATE FORESTS.

(i). ALTERATION IN AREA.

15. The year opened with 5,711 square miles and 605 acres of reserved forests, and 190 square miles and 100 acres of protected forests, making a total of 5,902 square miles and 65 acres in the charge of the Forest Department, scattered over the seven divisions which compose the Central Circle. 20 square miles and 584 acres were added to reserved forests under Section 19 of the Indian Forest Act, and 9 square miles and 93 acres were excluded from reserved forests under Section 26 of the Act. No additions have been made to the protected forests, but on the other hand, 177 acres have been excluded from protected forests during the fifteen months. And the total area of forest reservations in the Central Circle, at the close of the forest year, on the 1st July 1893, amounted to 5,913 square miles and 379 acres, made up of 5,723 square miles and 456 acres of reserved, and 189 square miles and 563 acres of protected forests, showing a net increase of 11 square miles and 314 acres in all. The particulars of each division are to be seen in Forms Nos. 46 and 46-A. attached to this report.

(ii). FOREST SETTLEMENTS.

16. The forest settlement work is practically finished in all the divisions of the Central Circle, for the forest conservancy project of every táluka has been drawn up, approved and sanctioned by Government. No settlement work in respect of lands notified under Section 34 of the Forest Act during 1879, remains to be done, but claims attaching to forest and waste lands, provisionally notified under Sections 4 and 28 of the Forest Act, were being inquired into, settled and recorded by the Forest Settlement Officers. In addition to this the Forest Settlement Officers were engaged in acquiring occupied lands included within the sanctioned projects of forest reservations, and in preparing forest registers, &c.; and the following is a short summary of the Settlement Officers' proceedings during the year.

Khándesh Collectorate.

17. Mr. C. G. Dodgson, I.C.S., was the Forest Settlement Officer, specially appointed, from 1st April 1892 to 5th August 1892, when he was transferred to act as Under Secretary to Government, in the Revenue Department, for three months, and on being relieved from that duty he proceeded on three months' privilege leave of absence, and finally returned on the 21st February 1893 and re-assumed charge of the Forest Settlement Office from Mr. A. Lucas

I.C.S., who had acted during his absence ; and Mr. Dodgson, continued to hold that appointment up to the end of the forest year.

During the months of April and May 1892, the demarcation upon the ground of the boundaries of Bhil settlements, which are enclosed by the Akráni-Narbada reserved forest, was completed, as well as the demarcation on the ground of the southern boundary line of the reserved forest, which had been left unfinished in 1891-92. During the rainy season, reports were submitted on the above work, as well as on the forest conservancy project of the Sindkheda Táluka, and of the southern portion of the Pimpalner Táluka.

On his return from privilege leave in February, Mr. Dodgson proceeded to the Akráni Pargana to hold local inquiries into any private rights which might be claimed in respect of, or found to be attaching to, the Akráni-Narbada proposed reserved forest, and on finishing this work he received charge of the Assistant Collector's office of the western division of Khándesh from Mr. Lucas, who was proceeding on furlough ; and since then he has been in charge of the Forest Settlement Office in addition to his duties as Assistant Collector. In April and May 1893, Mr. Dodgson settled claims to forest rights in the Navápur Petha and in the northern part of the Pimpalner Táluka, where certain lands had been notified provisionally as reserved forest under Section 4 of the Forest Act.

The detailed inquiries into the forest rights of Inámdárs, which have been going on for years, have been completed, and the final reports have been submitted ; so that there are now only 4 villages in respect of which orders of Government remain to be issued.

Certain occupied lands inside forest boundaries were acquired for conversion into reserved forests, by payment of compensation, or by giving other lands in exchange for them, in the Amalner Range ; these with the lands acquired last year in the Erandol Táluka were notified under Section 4 of the Forest Act. Similar notifications were also submitted for publication regarding other occupied lands acquired in the Jámner, Amalner and Páchorá tálukas.

The areas added to reserved forest during the year are distributed thus :—

Range.	Area.	
	Sq.m.	Acres.
Savda	1	383
Chopda	2	402
Bhusával	2	203
Shirpur	1	60
Nandurbár	2	215
Total ...	9	623

The occupied lands obtained on payment of compensation are distributed thus :—

Range.	Area.	Compensation.
	A. g.	Rs a. p.
Jámner ...	161 0	702 6 2
Amalner ...	388 38	1,005 3 4
Páchora ...	1 17	5 0 0
Total ...	551 15	1,712 9 6

The area disforested during the year is returned as under:—

Range.	Area.	
	Sq.m.	Acres.
Páchora	1	328
Shirpur	...	197
Nandurbár	1	190
Pimpalner	1	569
Total ...	5	4

About 199 square miles and 95 acres of reserved forests and 218 square miles and 346 acres of protected forests, in charge of the Forest Department and provisionally notified, remained to be finally settled and gazetted, in the Khándesh District, on the 30th June 1893.

Mr. Dodgson has, as usual, worked with great zeal, activity and energy for the forest interests of Government, with a careful regard for the satisfaction of the wants of the wild tribes, and for the demands of agriculture.

Násik Collectorate.

18. There has been no special Forest Settlement Officer for this district, as the work of settlement has been practically completed long ago, but some occupied lands, which are inside the sanctioned forest boundaries, remain to be acquired, and the settlement, after provisional notification of such portions of these as are obtained, from time to time, is carried on by the Assistant Collectors of the district, who have been appointed *ex-officio* Forest Settlement Officers, in respect of their revenue sub-division, for the purpose. 198 acres were acquired and provisionally notified under Section 4 during the year, and 194 acres were finally notified under Section 19 of the Forest Act.

Ahmednagar Collectorate.

19. Mr. V. B. Vadekar was special Forest Settlement Officer throughout the year. Forest-settlement work is practically finished, but the work of acquisition, by purchase or by exchange, of lands at present in occupation which are inside the sanctioned forest-boundaries, still remains to be completed, and the preparation of forest registers containing a complete record of rights in respect of the forest area of every range, has to be prepared: 219 acres of occupied lands were acquired by exchange, and 81 acres by payment of compensation at a cost of Rs. 677, for conversion into reserved forest. A very large area of occupied lands, amounting to no less than 26,524 acres enclosed within reserved forests, still remains to be acquired. Some of the acquired lands were notified under Section 4, and were also duly settled. Forest registers of the Shrigonda, Nevása, Shevgaon, Ráhuri, Kopargaon, Sangamner and Akola Tálukas, and those of the Railway B. class forest lands of 52 villages were prepared and furnished for the use of Village Officers and Range Forest Officers. Lists giving the old revenue survey numbering of the forest lands notified from time to time under Sections 19, 28 and 34 of the Forest Act, with the corresponding numbering according to the Revision Survey, or in other words, the revised description of boundaries of these reserved forests for the tálukas of Ráhuri, Shrigonda, Párner, Sangamner, Kopargaon and Akola, were also prepared and published in the *Government Gazettes*.

Mr. Vadekar has done a year's good substantial work, and the Conservator has much pleasure in testifying to the fact.

Poona Collectorate.

20. Mr. C. P. B. Wiltshire, I. C. S., was in charge of the forest settlement office throughout the year, in addition to his own revenue and magisterial duties as First Assistant Collector. 911 acres of occupied lands within the sanctioned forest boundaries were acquired for conversion into reserved forest. 906 acres of

this quantity were obtained by giving other waste lands in exchange for them, and 5 were secured by payment of compensation, amounting to Rs. 40. Settlement inquiries were made in the tálukas of Bhimthadi, Mával, Haveli, Junnar and Sirúr, and 791 acres were thus finally settled, and draft notifications in respect of them under Section 19 will be submitted after the period of appeal has expired. Settlement inquiries in repect of the Inám village of Khor, in the Bhimthadi Táluka, have also been completed. The Forest Settlement Officer has commenced preparing lists for publication showing the forest areas as described, according to the old survey, in the original notifications, and the corresponding survey numbers with areas under the Revision Survey, and the statements for táluka Khed and Ámbegaon petha have been submitted to Government, with a view to their publication in the *Government Gazette*. The preparation of forest registers, in English, in the form prescribed in the Forest Department Code, was also taken in hand; and registers for the tálukas of Indápur, Mával and Junnar have been prepared and sent to the Divisional Forest Officer. 1,274 acres were disforested during the year, and 1,702 acres have been notified under Section 4.

The special arrangements which Mr. Wiltshire has effected, since he has been in charge of the settlement office, for the obtainment of occupied lands situated within the sanctioned forest boundaries for their conversion into reserved forest, by exchanges, &c., would seem to be very satisfactory, and to the interests of both the Revenue and Forest Departments.

Sátára Collectorate.

21. There was no special Forest Settlement Officer for this collectorate up to 3rd December 1892, and the Assistant Collectors were *ex-officio* Forest Settlement Officers for their own revenue jurisdictions, respectively, up to that time; but Government in their Resolution No. 7897, dated 5th October 1892, in the Revenue Department, appointed Mr. S. R. Arthur, I. C. S. to be special Forest Settlement Officer of the Sátára District; and he accordingly took charge of his duties on 3rd December 1892, and up to the end of April 1893, visited the tálukas of Khánápur, Koregaon, Wái, with Khandála Petha, Jávli, Khatáv, Tásgaon, Válva and Pátan, but he unfortunately met with a gun accident on the 30th April, while in the Pátan Táluka, and from that date forward was unable to attend to out-door duties, though he carried on the office work, but as it was near the close of the travelling season the delay in the out-door work has been inconsiderable.

The principal items of work performed by the Forest Settlement Officer were:—

(1). Preparation of forest registers for each range.

(2). Comparison and correction of village forest registers.

(3) Submission of draft notifications under Sections 4 and 26 of the Forest Act, and of *errata* where necessary.

(4). Enquiry under Section 6 of the Forest Act into private rights and rights of way, &c.

(5). Submission of reports on the forest rights of Inámdárs.

Enquiries into private rights appear to have been conducted with great care, and no appeals were presented to the Collector. The work of effecting exchanges of lands in the Pátan Táluka and the Shirála Petha, for the acquisition of such occupied lands as were located within the sanctioned forest boundaries, has made considerable progress, and what remains to be done in this direction is being pushed on rapidly.

The Conservator cordially endorses the opinion of the Collector, that "Mr. Arthur has worked with assiduity and care and has given me satisfaction."

Sholápur Collctorate.

22. The forest settlement of the Collectorate is practically finished, but here also the work of acquiring some lands at present occupied, and which are

situated within the sanctioned forest boundaries, remains to be accomplished. The Deputy Collector, who has been in charge of the Forest Settlement Office throughout the year, in addition to his own revenue and magisterial duties, has seemingly been unable to effect any acquisitions, either by exchanges or by purchase, during the year. Settlement inquiries in respect of 142 acres, which, though acquired before the year opened, were provisionally notified under Section 4 during the year, were still undergoing at the close of the year.

23. The following is a complete statement of the forest and waste lands, provisionally notified under Sections 4 and 28 in the several divisions of the Central Circle, the settlement inquiries in respect of which still remained to be undertaken at the close of the forest year :—

No.	Division.	Section 4.		Section 28.		Total.	
		Sq.m.	Acres.	Sq.m.	Acres.	Sq.m.	Acres.
1	East Khándesh ...	11	373	...	...	11	373
2	West Khándesh ...	187	362	218	346	406	68
3	Násik	...	198	...	...	...	198
4	Ahmednagar	...	579	...	...	...	579
5	Poona	2	422	...	...	2	422
6	Sátára	2	194	...	...	2	194
7	Sholápur	...	142	...	...	...	142
	Total ...	205	350	218	346	424	56

24. And the following statement exhibits the area acquired by exchange and by purchase, together with the amount paid in compensation and the average rate per acre, in the several divisions of the Central Circle :—

No.	Division.	Area acquired.		Amount of Compensation paid.	Average Rate per Acre.
		By exchange.	By purchase.		
		Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.
1	East Khándesh ...	.....	551	1,713	3 1 8
2	West Khándesh ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
3	Násik	.....	.....	.....	.....
4	Ahmednagar	219	81	677	8 5 8
5	Poona	906	5	40	8 0 0
6	Sátára	300	30	10	0 5 4
7	Sholápur	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Total ...	1,425	667	2,440	3 10 6

Privileges.

25. No new concessions, in the way of privileges on the forests, were granted to the people during the year; some slight modifications were, however, made in the North Tápti Privilege Code, under the authority of Government Resolution No. 2259, dated 28th March 1893, in the Revenue Department, whereby a reduction of 25 per cent. in the scale of fees charged on bamboos was effected; and Government in their Reslution No. 9846, dated 15th December 1892, in the Revenue Department, have directed that the collection and sale of articles of minor forest produce should be left free and unrestricted, save

(1) Articles for which a trade demand exists, or for which there is a reasonable probability that such demand may in time be created, and

(2) Articles such as catechu the collection or manufacture of which it is necessary in the interests of forest conservancy to keep under effective control.

26. The following statement shows the cost of Forest Settlement Officers and their establishments entertained in the several divisions of the Central Circle :—

No.	Division.	Forest Settlement Officers.		Office Establishments.		Contingencies.	Total.
		Pay.	Travelling allowance.	Pay.	Travelling allowance.		
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	East Khándesh	7,796	1,450	4,894	1,696	502	16,338
2	West Khándesh						
3	Ahmednagar	...	...	480	210	165	855
4	Poona...	...	...	1,467	540	478	2,485
5	Sátára	3,687	1,208	1,114	36	491	6,536
	Total ...	11,483	2,658	7,955	2,482	1,636	26,214

The pay and travelling allowances drawn by the Forest Settlement Officers themselves are not charged in the forest accounts, but only the cost of their establishments and their contingent expenditure: thus the total amount debited in the forest accounts under A. VIII. *b*. "Compensation for land and rights" amounted to Rs. 12,073.

27. The selection of lands for forest reservations has been, practically, finished in all the divisions of the Central Circle, except in one táluka of the West Khándesh Division, as will be seen from the statement given below. :—

No.	Division.	Number of Talukas.	Number of Talukas,			Remarks.
			in which demarcation has been completed and sanctioned.	in which demarcation is incomplete.	in which demarcation is not undertaken.	
1	East Khándesh	9	9	...	...	
2	West Khándesh	7	6	*1	...	*Pimpalner.
3	Násik	12	12	...	...	
4	Ahmednagar	11	11	...	...	
5	Poona	8	8	...	...	
6	Sátára	11	11	...	...	
7	Sholápur	7	7	...	...	
	Total ...	65	64	1	...	

(iii). DEMARCATION.

28. The work of demarcating upon the ground, approved and sanctioned forest boundaries by the erection of special forest boundary marks still remains to be done, more or less, to a much greater extent than has been accomplished up to date, in almost all the divisions of the Central Circle; and the following statement will show the progress made during the year :—